



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

February 19, 2007

Prof. Ralph P. Harvey
Department of Geological Sciences
Case Western Reserve University
10900 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Ralph,

It was a pleasure meeting and working with you on a NASA review panel in the fall of 2006. It was a great moment when I realized that there might be an opportunity to contribute to the search and recovery of Antarctic meteorites, contrary to my thesis advisor's predictions twenty-five years ago. This letter expresses my interest in participating in your program and is an inquiry about your process of building your team.

My research on the mineralogy and petrology of asteroids and comets and their role in formation of the solar system has enabled me to work with meteorites as ground-truth materials for interpretation of remotely sensed data from telescopes and spacecraft including Hubble Space Telescope, NASA's NEAR mission to Eros, its Deep Impact mission impacting comet Tempel 1 with a 350 kg impactor, and presently, the Dawn mission scheduled to launch in June, 2007 to orbit both Vesta and Ceres.

I am available for field work in the next year or two, while the Dawn spacecraft is en route to a scheduled orbit of Vesta in 2011. Searching and recovering Antarctic meteorites would complement the scientific objectives of the Dawn mission, one of which is to relate the meteorites to the asteroids. Expanding the range of extraterrestrial material available for study on Earth will contribute to our analysis of the data returned from orbit at Vesta and Ceres. Our programs have some shared objectives.

Additional experience relevant to being part of your team include experience with NASA missions where it is important to work as a team with defined goals, roles and expectations. I spent many summers in New England at summer camp as a girl, where I gained a love of the outdoors and wilderness experience. I should note, that as a healthy and physically active 55 year old, I am eager to participate sooner rather than later.

I look forward to the opportunity to discuss your program with you and how I might contribute to it.

Sincerely,

Lucy McFadden,
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